

information on moving to western australia



THE
CLADDAGH
ASSOCIATION INC.

www.claddagh.org.au



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Table of Contents

Top 10 Tips on Moving to Western Australia ...	4	Medicare Levy Exemption	23
Introduction	4	Working ABN	23
		Entitlement to ABN	23
Section One: Before you go	5		
Travel Insurance.....	5	Section Six: Transport	24
Book a Return Flight	5	Safe Driving	24
Register with the Department of Foreign Affairs...	5	Buying a Car in WA	24
Have access to adequate funds	5	Registration (Rego)	24
Do your research	6	WA Drivers Licence	25
Obtaining a Visa.....	6	Penalty Points (Demerits)	25
Using a Migration Agent.....	7	Importing a Car from Ireland to Australia.....	26
Section Two: Arriving in Perth.....	8	Section Seven: Health	26
Explore this wonderful city!	8	Reciprocal Health Care Agreement.....	26
Getting Around	8	Private Health Care	27
Making Friends.....	9	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)	27
100 Points of ID	9	Healthcare.....	27
Proof of age card	10	Medicare.....	27
Alcohol Laws and Night Life.....	10		
		Section Eight: Safety and Support.....	28
Section Three: Accommodation.....	11	Safety in the Sun & Heat.....	28
Short-term Accommodation in Perth.....	11	Safety on the Beaches	30
Renting in Perth	11	Fire Safety	30
Section Four: Employment.....	14	Support Groups	30
Tips on Job Hunting.....	14	Centrelink.....	30
F.I.F.O (Fly in Fly out)	17		
Regional Work	18	Section Nine: Australia Information & History	31
Employment Rights	18	About Australia.....	31
Changing employers on a 457 sponsorship visa....	20	Aboriginal Culture	31
Section Five: Tax & Superannuation.....	20	Appendix One: List of Perth Hostels.....	34
Tax File Number	20		
Starting a new job.....	21	Appendix Two: Community, Cultural &	
Superannuation	22	Sporting Information Links	36
Obligation to file a tax return	23		

- 1 Purchase comprehensive travel insurance before you leave Ireland
- 2 Book a return flight
- 3 Have access to adequate funds
- 4 Organise accommodation before you leave Ireland
- 5 Review Visa types available
- 6 Open Australian bank account and obtain Australian mobile phone
- 7 Organise references for renting and job applications
- 8 Adapt your CV for Australia jobs market
- 9 Obtain appropriate Health Insurance Policy
- 10 Embrace Australian lifestyle and culture

Introduction

The Claddagh Association of Western Australia has assisted Irish people during times of crisis and trauma since 1997 throughout Western Australia. We are a voluntary non-profit organisation with Gift Recipient Status. We aim to provide, where possible, crisis support to people from the Irish community in times of hardship and trauma. We provide a safety net to assist people in crisis situations where all other avenues have been exhausted.

Over the last couple of years there has been a huge increase in the number of Irish people immigrating to Western Australia. Throughout this period Claddagh has also experienced an unprecedented increase in calls for assistance, particularly from people in financial hardship. Generally these people came to WA unprepared and with an unrealistic expectation of life in Perth.

A team of Claddagh volunteers have researched a range of topics relevant to people making to move to WA. This booklet contains useful information on a wide range of subjects and will direct you to other sources for more information.

The booklet is most effective as an online pdf as there are numerous hyperlinks to external websites throughout the booklet. You can also easily navigate between sections by using the hyperlinks throughout.

If you are viewing a hard copy of the booklet you can access the pdf version on the Claddagh website www.claddagh.org.au

Section One: Before you go

Travel Insurance

Claddagh strongly recommends you purchase comprehensive travel insurance before you depart Ireland. Over the last 16 years Claddagh has encountered countless Irish people that have been seriously injured or killed and did not have travel insurance. This causes a huge amount of distress on families already in turmoil.

The [Reciprocal Health Agreement](#) between Ireland and Australia covers emergency cover in hospital but does not cover for instance the cost of ambulances, medicines, physiotherapy or loss of earnings. In the case of medical evacuation to Ireland following a serious injury, insurance will reduce or remove the burden that would otherwise arise for you or your family.

When choosing travel insurance it is important that it covers sports or other activities that might be participated in while in Australia. If you plan to work on a farm to extend a [Working Holiday visa](#), the policy should cover manual labour.¹

Book a Return Flight

Your return flight is your safety net, there are many reasons you may need to return to Ireland, such as a family crisis at home or if you are injured and unable to work here.

Register with the Department of Foreign Affairs

The Department of Foreign Affairs encourages Irish citizens travelling or living overseas to register their contact details with them. When you register your details with the Department, it means that they can contact you if there is an unforeseen crisis such as a natural disaster or civil unrest or if you have a family emergency while you are overseas. Your registration will assist the Department to locate you and, if necessary, provide assistance to you and your family in Ireland.² This is especially relevant to people living in parts of Australia prone to natural disasters, such as cyclones, bush fires and flooding. For further information refer to the [DFA website](#)

Have access to adequate funds

Perth consistently ranks in the top 20 most expensive cities in the world. People arriving from Ireland are usually very shocked at the cost of food, accommodation and a night out in town. One of the requirements to get a Working Holiday Visa (417) is you must have access to sufficient funds to support yourself for the initial stage of your holiday. You should also have a return or onward ticket or the funds for a fare to depart Australia. You may be asked to provide evidence. Claddagh has encountered many people especially in recent times that have completely run out of funds and are on the verge of homelessness. These people expected to find work immediately and because they came with little savings they very quickly found themselves in a crisis situation. The amount of money you need to bring with you will depend on your personal circumstances.

1 <http://www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8602>

2 <http://dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=40332>

Do your research

In addition to this booklet there are numerous other websites with lots of useful information.

www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8602

<http://movingtoaustralia.com.au/>

<http://www.aussierelocation.com/>

<http://www.aussiemove.com/>

<http://movetoperth.net/>

<http://www.livingin-australia.com/living-in-perth/>

<http://shedsguidetoperth.blogspot.com.au/>

Also, check out Perth-based Facebook pages as they contain a wealth of information. These Facebook pages have hundreds of members and they will give you an insight into life in Perth, including some of the challenges.

[Claddagh Perth](#)

[Irish Families in Perth](#)

[Irish Around Perth](#)

[Irish People Living in Australia](#)

Obtaining a Visa

A visa is defined by the Australian Government Department of Immigration and Citizenship

(DIAC) as “Permission to travel to, to enter and/or to remain in Australia for a period of time or indefinitely.”

There are numerous visa types ranging from those aimed at:

- the tourist, spending time exploring the Australian country and cities;
- the student, studying in university to further their education and skill;
- the work holiday visa, for the young person wishing to combine travel and earning money;
- the professional and other skilled workers moving to Australia to work and provide for their family and dependants.

The visa type that you choose will determine your rights and entitlements in Australia. Researching the different options and visas available for your own situation will help you make best decision.

An example of a temporary visa is Subclass 457. This allows employers to employ an approved skilled worker to work in Australia on a temporary basis. There are no entitlements to

Centrelink and Medicare amongst other services on this visa (for holders of Republic of Ireland passports) and there are restrictions on your employment.

An example of a permanent visa is Subclass 175. Permanent Residency (PR) will mean that your entitlements in Australia increase. You can avail of Centrelink and Medicare. The visa type that you opt for may also determine the duration that you can stay in Australia.

The DIAC website provides a wealth of information on all the visa options and sets out the criteria for each specific visa type

The website provides details on topics such as:

- Visa types available
- Living in Australia
- Fees and Charges for different Visas
- Visa forms
- Applying online
- Success stories of Visa Applicants and their visa route.
- “Contact Us” Section provides contact details for specific topics. This will bring you through a step by step process with links to reading material on the website, allowing you to check if your query can be answered on the website.

The DIAC website is an excellent source of information. Please take the time to read and browse it to help you make an informed decision about the visa that is best suited to you and your situation.

Using a Migration Agent

It is possible to lodge any sort of visa application yourself and most applications can be lodged online. However you may want to use a registered migration agent if you do not feel confident in lodging an application, or if your case is complex. In Australia, migration agents must be registered with the Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority (MARA). If you choose to use a migration agent, you should use a registered migration agent. A registered migration agent can use their knowledge of Australia’s migration procedures to offer advice or assistance to a person wishing to obtain a visa to enter or remain in Australia.

For further information or to find a Registered Migration Agent refer to:

<https://www.mara.gov.au/>

Section Two: Arriving in Perth

Explore this wonderful city!

Perth is a beautiful city with miles of white sandy beaches, spacious parks and riverside amenities.

These websites will give you lots of ideas on things to see and do:

<http://www.experienceperth.com/>

<http://www.showmepertth.com.au/>

<http://www.weekendnotes.com.au/perth/>

<http://www.cityofperth.wa.gov.au/web/Visiting/>

Getting Around

Perth's public transport system, Transperth offers bus, train and ferry services. You can plan your journey on the [Transperth website](#) If you have a smartphone with Google Maps you can also enter your destination and it will tell you which bus or train to catch.

CAT Buses

CATs are free, high frequency bus services that operate in the Perth Central Business District (CBD) or city centre as we would say. To make it easier for you to work out which bus to take, all CATs are colour coded as follows:

- The Red Cat travels in an East-West loop from Queens Gardens in East Perth to Outram St in West Perth

- The Blue CAT travels in a North-South loop from the Barrack St Jetty to Northbridge

- The Yellow CAT operates in a loop from East Perth to West Perth.

Click [here](#) for further information

SmartRider Card

If you're planning to do a lot of traveling on public transport in Perth your best bet is to pick up a SmartRider card. A SmartRider is a card that enables you to use any Transperth bus, train or ferry service with ease. You simply add value to the card and then 'tag on' and 'tag off' each time you travel on a Transperth service and the SmartRider does the rest for you, calculating precisely how far you have travelled and deducting the correct fare value of each journey from the balance on the card. That means no more worrying about having the correct change on you or waiting in queues to buy a ticket. For further information click [here](#)

Making Friends

Moving to the other side of the world can be a daunting experience, but Perth has many newcomers to the city each week in similar circumstances.

[Meetup](#) is a great website for meeting people with similar interests. There are lots of groups to join in Perth from book clubs to cycling groups.

There is a huge vibrant Irish community in Perth with lots of cultural, sporting or community organisations to join, [see Appendix Two](#).

Irish Families in Perth is a Facebook group for Irish families/Irish Australian Families in Perth to make contact and discuss issues about relocating and settling in. The group was set up in September 2011 to help Irish families, especially young families who may have no support network, to connect and support each other. The group holds a regular playgroup and other social events.

Numerous local based Facebook pages give details of “what’s on” in your local area and also check your local Shire website for free family and community events. Local libraries will list story-time, toy library, baby rhyme time, etc. for young children.

100 Points of ID

You may be asked to provide 100 points check across many industries, the reasoning for this is to verify your identity.

To give you an idea when you may come across this:

- Police Check
- Opening up a Bank Account
- Purchasing a Mobile Phone or a SIM card
- [Applying for Rental accommodation](#)
- [Applying for WA age card](#)
- [Applying for Driving license](#)

The general rule of thumb is that Primary documents will be 70 point & Secondary ID can range from 25-40 points depending what you are being identified for.

In some instances you may be asked to have your documents certified. There are many people from a broad range of professions who can certify your documents. A list of these persons will be outlined to you when asked.

Primary ID

Valid Passport Birth Certificate Australian Citizenship Certificate

Secondary ID

Credit card / debit card Australian driver's license Proof of age card
Medicare card Bill with current address Marriage certificate

Proof of age card

A proof of age card provides anyone over the age of 18 years with a recognised form of personal identification. The proof of age card is designed primarily for accessing into licensed premises.

This card can be obtained from the Department of Transport at a Driver & Vehicle Services Centre in person. A list of the centres can be found [here](#). You will need to complete an application form, pay the \$25 fee and provide one primary and one secondary ID - one of which must contain your signature. Your photo will be taken at the centre and then the card will be posted to your home address and can take up to 5- 10 working days.

Alcohol Laws and Night Life

In Perth, alcohol laws are controlled by the Liquor Control Act 1988 which regulates how alcohol is sold, supplied and consumed. The legal drinking age across Australia is 18 years old. People under the age of 18 are not allowed to purchase, supply or consume alcohol on licensed or regulated premises, even if they are with their parents. It's also illegal to sell alcohol to, or purchase it for anyone under the age of 18 years. The maximum penalty for breaking these laws is a hefty \$2000 fine.

In WA, alcohol laws only allow the following forms of identification as legally accepted proof-of-age in licensed premises:

- Current Australian driver's licence with photograph
- Current passport
- Current Western Australian Proof-of-Age card

Your Irish Driver's License will not be accepted as a form of ID. Many of the bars in Perth use an ID scanning system to record and verify patrons' identities when they enter their premises. This means every person wishing to enter must produce one of the above IDs; if you don't have the correct ID there will be no entry.

Entry into licensed premises may be refused for reasons such as drunkenness, disorderly behaviour, unacceptable dress, false or insufficient photo identification relating to suspected juveniles, or being underage. It is an offence under Western Australian alcohol laws for persons of any age to drink in public, such as on the street, park or beach. If you get caught, you could face a maximum penalty of \$2,000 or be slapped with a \$200 on the spot fine.³

3 <http://shedsguidetoperth.blogspot.com.au/2013/03/alcohol-laws-in-perth-western-australia.html>

Section Three: Accommodation

Short-term Accommodation in Perth

As there is a daily influx of new people to Perth, the most isolated city in the world, Claddagh strongly recommends you book accommodation prior to arrival. The suburbs of Perth stretch north of the city 25km, south of the city 25km and inland 20km (approximately). Reviewing the public transport links available may assist in your choice of location for your short term accommodation. Options for short term lets and holiday apartments, hotels and hostels are available at varying budgets. See Appendix One for Listing of Hostels in Perth.

Information available on Short Term Lets in Perth including:

www.stayz.com.au/short-term-rentals-accommodation/wa/perth

www.rent-a-home.com.au/accommodation/wa/perth/perth

www.exapt.com.au

www.holidayrentals.com.au/holiday-rentals/search/locale/perth

www.happyhousesitters.com.au

Renting in Perth

Each state in Australia has different rules, requirements and regulations when leasing properties. There is a high demand for rental properties in Western Australia at present, and it can be especially difficult for immigrants to successfully lease a property. This is mainly due immigrants' lack of rental history in Australia.

When leasing a property, viewings and home opens are held any number of people can attend. There are numerous websites available in which properties available are listed, and home open days/times are detailed which include:

www.realestate.com.au

www.reiwa.com.au

The property manager conducting the viewing will hand out Tenant Application Forms for completion at the viewings. It is important, when submitting a completed application, that all relevant requirements and information are included also.

In order to improve the chances of successfully attaining the property in question, it is important that each person wishing to reside at a property has provided the following:

- Copies of photo ID (e.g. passport, WA driver's license etc...)
- Proof of income (e.g. 2-3 recent payslips) – new immigrants have often not yet secured employment, and wish to secure a property first. In this case, each applicant wishing to reside at the chosen property must provide back statements showing sufficient funds

are available to pay the bond and the rent for a certain period of time. If an immigrant has recently secured a job, but has not yet begun work, a signed contract will suffice.

- Rental references – new immigrants do not have a previous rental history in Australia, however, if a reference from a rental agent is available, then this should be included in the application
 - The reference from the real estate agent in Ireland should detail:
 - Confirmation of rent payments being transferred by the tenant on time each week/month
 - Details of inspections completed, and condition of the property during each inspection
 - Details of the inspection completed when the tenant vacated and confirmation of costs taken from the bond, if any

If the Irish real estate agent is unwilling to provide a written reference, then the applicant can provide the Australian property manager with a contact email address for the Irish agent and contact telephone numbers. It is also advisable to specify on the application the time differences between Ireland and Australia.

- Western Australian real estate agencies often require applicants to pay an option fee when submitting an application. This option fee is generally equal to one weeks' rent. This is usually payable by money order (obtained from a post office) or a bank cheque. If the application is successfully, the option fee will become the first weeks rent paid at the property. If the application is unsuccessful, then the option fee will be returned to the applicant
 - However, if an applicant submits a number of applications to different real estate agencies, and is successful on more than one property, the option fee the applicant has paid on the property he/she chooses not to take, does not get refunded

When an applicant is successful, an agreed date to sign the lease and move in is agreed between the property manager and the applicant(s). All tenants must sign the lease, and the Bond Lodgement Form. The tenants must pay a bond equal to four weeks rent, and two weeks rent in advance (the option fee usually counts for the first week in advance).

The bond paid is lodged to the Bond Administrator, which is a government authority, and is returned to the tenants at the end of the lease agreement.

Pitfalls for Immigrants

Immigrants often have to wait weeks, or even months, before securing a property. This leads to immigrants often resorting to leasing properties from private owners. There are a number of disadvantages to leasing a property through private landlords, some being:

- Some private landlords hold the bond in their personal account, and do not lodge it to the Bond Administrator; therefore it can prove difficult for tenants to be reimbursed the total bond amount at the end of the tenancy.
- Private landlords often do not provide tenants with all-encompassing lease agreements and there are often numerous loopholes in such lease agreements in which owners can terminate lease agreements, evict tenants and refuse to refund bonds.
- Private landlords often do not provide tenants with detailed reports of the condition of the property prior to the lease agreement; therefore it can be difficult for tenants to prove whether or not certain damages were present prior to the commencement of the tenancy.
- Both private landlords, and recently immigrated tenants, are not fully aware of the rules and regulations of the Residential Tenancies Act. Tenants often feel as though there is no recourse if a dispute occurs between the private landlord and the tenant.
- Private landlords often complete inspections without providing the tenants with sufficient notice. Other private landlords often turn up at the property with no notice given. Some private landlords collect the rent from the tenants at the property each week, and expect the tenants to allow access to the property at that time also.
- Leasing a property through a private landlord does not ensure that tenants will have an easier rental process when attempting to secure a property thereafter. Private landlords are notorious for falsifying rental references, often advising real estate agents that certain tenants are excellent, in an attempt to have the tenants vacate their own property. Additionally, private owners sometimes falsify references and advise real estate agents that certain tenants are not good, in order to scupper the tenant's chances of securing another property, therefore forcing that tenant to remain in their property. Some property managers are unwilling to rent to tenants who only have private landlords as references.

When completing a Tenant Application Form, it is important that an applicant does not list a friend or relative as a 'private landlord' through whom they are currently renting a property, in the belief that it will help secure a property if a 'rental history' in Australia is detailed. Property managers have the facility to check the address of the property listed, as well as the correct owner. If the name of the correct owner does not match that of the owner detailed in the Tenant Application Form, the property manager will automatically decline the application as incorrect information has been provided.

It is important that properties are maintained to a high standard during the term of the lease and returned to the property manager in excellent condition at the end of the lease agreement. It is vital that undue damage is not caused, and that tenants do not abscond. There are a number of Defaulting Tenancy Databases Australia-wide accessible by the property manager, if the tenants name appears on the Defaulting Tenancy Database, and it will prove extremely difficult for that person to secure a property within Australia until all debts are cleared.

[Further information on renting in WA](#)

Section Four: Employment

Tips on Job Hunting

1. Create & tailor your Resume

It is important to think of your resume as your own personal marketing tool. It is the first thing that a potential employer sees and is your means of getting that opportunity to show what you can do. You need to make sure that your resume is relevant for the job that you are going for and is written in a clear and concise manner.

Remember that the person who is reading your resume may also be reviewing another 50 so don't write too much and focus on your responsibilities and achievements.

Tips on how to make a good resume can be found on [SEEK](#) website

2. Be Prepared

Being prepared may sound a bit obvious but is really critical.

- Have a professional sounding voicemail
- Have an email address just for looking for work
- Know the local area and where you can and can't work
- Have all of your qualifications and papers to hand
- If you think that you may need to get a WA driver's license or a Police Clearance for your job then get one

3. Papers

Make sure you have the relevant papers required for the industry you work in. Examples:

- White Card – required to work on a construction site
- Electrical nominee licence – Required to work as an Electrician
- Responsible Service of Alcohol – Required to work in hospitality
- Restricted Plumbers Permit – Allows your skills to be recognised
- Child Care – Working with Children Check (WWC)

Useful websites to search are listed below:

<http://www.innovation.gov.au/SKILLS/SKILLSASSESSMENT/TRADESRECOGNITIONAUSTRALIA/Pages/default.aspx>

www.immi.gov.au/skilled/sol

www.tradeset.com.au

4. Search for the Job Online

There are some great tools at your disposal that are free. Online media is the quickest and easiest way to search for a job and can help you identify potential companies to work for. The portals that advertise jobs only help you specifically target the area and the job that you want to apply for. LinkedIn is a networking site that allows you to target specific people within certain companies and industries. This is a great tool once you have identified what area you want to work and allows you to cut out the middle man.

Seek – www.seek.com.au

My Career - www.mycareer.com.au

Gumtree – www.gumtree.com.au

The Job Shop <http://www.thejobshop.com.au/>

Workstay <http://www.workstay.com.au>

Backpacker Jobs Board <http://www.backpackerjobboard.com.au/jobs-in/perth/>

In addition to websites, many of the Facebook pages previously mentioned have regular posts about current vacancies.

Recruitment Agencies

Recruitment agencies are a great way of widening your knowledge of the local market and are the main way that companies get temporary staff, which could be a great foot in the door. With recruitment agencies for best results speak with 1-3 and try to make sure that your agent takes time to meet with you. There are many recruitment agencies operating in Perth, below are just a small selection of these:

White Collar & Engineering

Michael Page International - www.michaelpage.com.au/

Titan Recruitment - www.titan.net.au

Swan Personnel - www.swanpersonnel.com.au/

Blue Collar & Admin

Hays - www.hays.com.au

Hudson- <http://au.hudson.com>

Mining People - www.miningpeople.com.au

Hospitality

Pinnacle - www.pinnaclepeople.com.au

All Star Hospitality - www.hospitalityrecruitmentperth.com.au

Printed Media

Newspapers are still used as a traditional method of advertising for a vacant position and are a great way of finding a trade's job. Reading the newspaper on a daily bases enhances your industry knowledge & knowledge of the state that you are living in.

The West Australian – Employment opportunities are advertised on a Wednesday & Saturday.
Regional Papers – These papers are great in helping you find rural work.

Networking

An effective way to find a job when first arriving is by networking in the Irish community.

5. Interview Tips

When it comes to interviewing it is very easy to get nervous and not show your true abilities. Below are just a few tips that will help you stay in control and show your true potential:

- Research Company – A potential employer will always be impressed if you have taken the time to learn about their business and it could give you that extra edge against your competition.
- Dress appropriately – A good first impression is very important and looking the part will always help.
- Listen to the question and answer appropriately
- Be aware of your body language – Body language is just as important as dressing appropriately.
- Show Interest - Ask lots of questions about the job, the company and also the interviewees.

For further Interview tips please visit SEEK

6. Salary negotiations

When you are offered a position it is very easy to get excited and accept the first offer that you are made. You could be lucky and it could be the market rate but spend a bit of time beforehand to learn your value to make sure that you are not been taken advantage of.

A good strategy if you don't have any contacts is to look at salary surveys to benchmark the market as a whole and these are widely available across recruitment agencies:

http://www.michaelpage.com.au/websitepdf/12509_SEF_Report_online.pdf

<http://www.hays.com.au/salary-guide/>

F.I.F.O (Fly in Fly out)

FIFO involves workers flying to remote mine sites and resource projects to work ten to fourteen hour shifts for two to six weeks at a time. There are many rosters and a wide variety of roles in this sector. The FIFO lifestyle can be hard on families especially, these sites provide information:

<http://www.fifofamilies.com.au/>

<http://thefifowife.com.au/category/real-life-fifo-families/>

<http://www.cottesloecounselling.com.au/fifo-lifestyle.html>

<http://life.miningpeople.com.au/fifo-family-divide-how-you-can-fit-into-family-life-at-home-on-your-rostered-time-off>

<http://www.miningfm.com.au/news/news-archive/439-starting-fifo-heres-what-to-pack.html>

Regional Work

To be eligible for a second working holiday visa, one of the major application criteria is to complete three 'calendar' months (or 88 days) of specified work in regional Australia while on your first Working Holiday (417) visa. Click here for a full list of criteria and here for information on how to apply for the 2nd year Working Holiday Visa. The work must be completed within an eligible regional postcode area.

Queries on what 'specified' work is, calculating how many days you have worked, and providing evidence of work to DIAC, there is a wealth of information on this page.

How to find Regional work?

Visiting the Harvest Trail website you will find information on the different towns and regions, and the crops they produce in any given month. They also have a jobs board on the site, but make sure that the work is completed within an eligible regional Australian postcode area.

The National Harvest Telephone Information Service provides working opportunities in different regions, working conditions and accommodation: 1800 062 332

The Job Shop is a licensed employment agency located in Northbridge, with offices also in the North West of Western Australia in Kununurra. Registering for their services is completely free and you'll be able to gain access to large database of WA jobs. Check out their website or pay them a visit at First Floor, 236 William Street, Northbridge

WWOOF- WILLING WORKERS ON ORGANIC FARMS

Work 4-6 hours a day on organic farms, in exchange for food and accommodation. You can find some WWOOF-ing opportunities on Gumtree, or you can buy the WWOOF book for a full list of contacts. Visit: <http://www.woof.com.au/>

A nice article on the WWOOF-ing experience can be found here

REMEMBER

Do not provide false or misleading information on your application for a second year visa- DIAC are clamping down on these practises. DIAC is well aware of false Australian Business Numbers (ABN) circulating and offers being made of fraudulent documentation. Many Irish people have been deported for this reason alone over recent years. Dishonesty in a visa application or producing false documentation is visa fraud and can lead to prosecution and/or deportation, and a ban on entering Australia in the future. This could also affect any attempts to gain entry to other countries.⁴

4 <http://www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8602>

Employment Rights

All employees in Australia including overseas workers are covered by the Fair Work Act 2009.

The amount you are entitled to be paid depends on factors including which state or territory you work in, your age, what award you are covered by, and the details of your workplace agreement.

Your rights

- Your employer must pay you regularly
- Your employer must not make deductions from your salary (other than for tax purposes) without your permission.
- You have the right to work in a safe and healthy workplace.
- If you have been injured at work, you may be entitled to workers' compensation.
- Your employer cannot treat you unfavourably or dismiss you because you make an inquiry or complaint about your employment (to your employer or to anyone else) or because you seek to enforce your rights.

If you have any questions about the level of remuneration you receive from your employer or you wish to make a complaint – please utilise the details below:

Fair Work Australia website www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Ombudsman on 13 13 94

Steps in making a complaint <http://www.fairwork.gov.au/complaints/how-to-make-a-complaint/pages/step-by-step-making-a-complaint.aspx>

Unions Australia Helpline on 1300 486 466.

If you feel your workplace is unsafe, you should contact your union or the relevant state authority below.

[WA WorkCover Western Australia 1300 794 744](#)

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/employment/employees/pages/things-every-employee-should-know.aspx>

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/Templatesformschecklists/My-employment-checklist.pdf>

<http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/booklets/1154.pdf> - pg 45/46

Changing employers on a 457 sponsorship visa

If you are on a subclass 457 visa and you want to change your employer or occupation you are not required to apply for a new visa.

You must be nominated by your proposed new employer and have that nomination approved first before you can start working for a new employer or in a new occupation. You will be in breach of your visa if you start working before this has been approved & your visa may be cancelled.

You should also note that the approval of a new nomination only allows you to change your employer or occupation. It does not extend the term of your subclass 457 visa nor change the conditions that are attached to your subclass 457 visa. [Click here](#) for more information

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have a valid visa to remain in Australia at all times. To check the visa conditions and expiry date of your visa, please refer to the department's website

Section Five: Tax & Superannuation

Tax File Number

A Tax File Number (TFN) is the number issued to each taxpayer by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Although a TFN is not compulsory it is to your advantage to avoid paying more tax than necessary. You can apply for a tax file number (TFN) online only if you are currently in Australia and you have:

[A valid permanent migrant visa, or](#)

[A valid visa with work rights, or](#)

[A valid overseas student visa, or](#)

[A valid visa allowing you to stay in Australia indefinitely.](#)

To apply online, you need a valid passport or relevant travel documents and you must be authorised to work in Australia by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC)

When you apply online you do not have to physically provide proof of identity documents. ATO will compare your personal and travel document details with DIAC's records. When they validate your details, they will give you a receipt number.

Only one TFN will ever be issued to you. Once you have a TFN, you don't need to re-apply for one if your circumstances change.

To apply for a Tax File Number online, refer to www.iar.ato.gov.au

Starting a new job

Each time you start a new job you must complete a Tax File Number Declaration. The information you provide in this declaration will help your employer work out how much tax to take out of your wages.

When completing the declaration you must state whether you are 'an Australian resident for tax purposes'. The residency tests the ATO use to work out your residency for tax purposes are not the same as those used by other Australian agencies for other purposes such as immigration.⁵

Generally, you are an Australian resident for tax purposes if any of the following applies:

- you have always lived in Australia
- you moved to Australia and live here permanently
- you have been in Australia continuously for six months or more, and for most of the time you have been in the same job, and living in the same place
- you have been in Australia for more than half of the financial year, unless your usual home is overseas, and you do not intend to live in Australia.

People on a working holiday visa often find it confusing to work out which category they fall into. Here are some examples from the ATO website to help you.⁶

5 <http://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/content.aspx?menuid=0&doc=/content/64131.htm&page=1&H1>

6 <http://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/content.aspx?menuid=0&doc=/content/64131.htm&page=2&H2>

You are an Australian resident for tax purposes if you are visiting Australia for more than six months and for most of that time you live at the same place, and you either have or establish ties in the local community.

You are not an Australian resident for tax purposes if you are visiting Australia for more than six months, and for most of that time you are travelling and working in various locations around Australia.

Superannuation

Superannuation is money set aside over your lifetime to provide for your retirement. In Australia your employer will contribute to your Superannuation if you're between the ages of 18 - 69 years old. These superannuation contributions must be at least 9% of your ordinary earnings. It doesn't matter if you work full time or part time or casually.

A very useful tool is Superseeker on the [ATO website](#):

On this page you can:

- [Check your current support accounts](#)
- [Find lost super](#)
- [Find ATO- held Super](#)
- [Transfer your Super into the support account that you want.](#)

If you worked in Australia as a temporary resident, you may be eligible to claim back your super money after leaving Australia. This [link](#) will guide you.

Obligation to file a tax return

In Australia you must lodge an income tax return at the end of the financial year (June 30th) to ATO. This allows ATO to calculate whether you have paid enough taxes on the wages you earned. If you have paid less than you should, you get a tax bill. If you have paid more taxes than you should, you get a tax refund.⁷

A payment summary is a statement from the employer outlining the full amount of wages you earned and the amount of tax paid in a financial year. This document is quite essential in lodging your tax return. Employers are legally required to give the payment summary to you within 2 weeks after the end of financial year (by 14th of July) or within 4 weeks since you leave the company. Payment summary must be obtained from each employer you have worked for in that financial year. If you do not have a payment summary you might have to provide other documents like final payslip and statutory declaration⁸

7 <http://www.workstay.com.au/Tax-information>

8 <http://www.workstay.com.au/Tax-information>

Medicare Levy Exemption

Medicare is the scheme that gives Australian residents access to health care. To help fund the scheme, most taxpayers pay a Medicare levy of 1.5% of their taxable income. However people from the Republic of Ireland on a temporary visa are not entitled to Medicare benefits. In order to avoid paying the Medicare levy you must obtain a Medicare levy exemption certificate from Medicare Australia. You must send a completed form and certified copies of all the used pages on your passport. More information available [here](#)

Working ABN

An ABN is an Australian Business Number, which businesses use when dealing with the Australian Tax Office and other government departments.

If your employer asks you to get an ABN, it is possible that he or she is hiring you as an independent contractor and not as an employee. It's illegal for an employer to pretend you are a contractor when you are clearly an employee. This is called 'sham contracting' and your employer could be prosecuted.⁹

If you are working as an independent contractor, you'll be responsible for reporting your income and paying tax to the Australian Tax Office. If you are an employee, your employer will usually deduct tax from your income.

Generally contractors use their own tools, have their own insurance and decide how they want to do the job. They may also be responsible for their own superannuation entitlements and workers compensation.

"UP TO 50,000 Australian builders could be missing out on the holidays, sick leave and superannuation they are entitled to, as a result of being improperly employed as contractors instead of permanent staff."

[Read more of the article here](#)

Entitlement to ABN

The **ABN** entitlement tool will help you in determining whether you are entitled to register for ABN. When applying for an ABN it is important that the information you provide to the Australian Business Register is true and correct.

⁹ <http://youngworkertoolkit.youth.gov.au/starting-your-job/my-boss-has-told-me-get-abn-and-my-own-workers-compensation-insurance-do-i-need>

Section Six: Transport

Safe Driving

Road traffic accidents are the most common cause of death and serious injury to Irish visitors in Australia.

If travelling long distances take a break. Never ever drink and drive. Wear a seatbelt. Be responsible – do not get into the car with a driver that you know is under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. In rural areas roads may be unsealed and impassable after heavy rain. Driver fatigue is a major cause of death on Australian roads. Drivers are advised to always carry water and to take rest breaks every two hours while driving long distances. Petrol stations may be few and far between and there may be a requirement to carry an additional petrol supply.

It is also important to check the roadworthiness of the vehicle to be used before undertaking long distance travel in remote areas. A national Australian register **NEVDIS** is available where the history of a car can be checked, whether it has been written off or involved in a serious accident, or whether there is any finance owing on it. If you buy a car with finance owing the debt will transfer to you as the new owner.

Local speed limits are generally lower than in Ireland. They are strictly enforced and hefty on-the-spot fines are applied. Watch out too for signs warning of local wildlife which may be present on the roads and can cause serious injury in a collision. Particular attention should be paid when driving at dawn and dusk when animals such as kangaroos are on the move.¹⁰

Buying a Car in WA

Buying a car in WA is relatively easy, although there is some paperwork involved. Both the buyer and seller fill out a "Notification of change of ownership" form. The seller copy of the form is green and must be sent to the Department of Transport within 7 days of the sale of the vehicle. The buyer copy is pink and must be posted to the Department of Transport within 14 days of purchasing the vehicle.

Once both copies of the form have been received the Department of Transport then transfers ownership of the vehicle to buyer.

There is an additional "Vehicle licence duty", which is a fee paid to the Office of State Revenue on transferring a vehicle licence. It is charged at a percentage rate of the value of the vehicle, so the more expensive the car then the larger the fee.

Registration (Rego)

Cars are registered to individual states and by law each car on the road must have valid registration papers. Registration can be paid annually or every six months and the fees include Compulsory Third Party Insurance (TPI).

10 <http://www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8602>

Compulsory TPI ensures that every vehicle using public roads in WA is insured for third party personal injury. It covers death and injury to people if you are involved in an accident. The TPI fee is a compulsory part of vehicle licensing. However Compulsory TPI does not cover damage to vehicles. Without additional car insurance you may end up in debt if you are involved in an accident. If you only have Rego and the accident is your fault you will have to pay for any damage caused to the other car. You will also have to pay the cost to repair your own vehicle.¹¹

For information on types of insurance, choosing a car insurance policy, and on your obligations, e.g. being honest when you take out insurance, go to Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC)'s [Money Smart website](#)

Similarly should you only have Rego and someone drives into your car, that person has no legal obligation to make a claim on their insurance to pay for the damage caused to your vehicle. And because you have no insurance company to communicate with their insurance company, you can repair the car yourself and try to claim the expenses back through a small claims court.

WA Drivers Licence

People in Australia on a 417 working holiday visa or the 457 visa are not required to apply for a state driver's licence. However those with a Permanent Residence visa must obtain a state licence within 3 months of arrival of the PR visa being granted.

To apply for a Western Australian driver's licence you will need to personally attend a Driver and Vehicle Services Centre or regional Agent.

Please ensure you take the following documentation with you:

- current overseas driver's licence;
- 2 proofs of identity (passport, banking statement etc.)
- proof of your WA residential address;
- one document that shows your signature; and
- the application fee – the cost of a 5 year licence is \$119, other fees do apply.¹²

Penalty Points (Demerits)

A demerit points system is used in Australia to deal with driving offences. Any points accrued during driving in WA do not go onto your Irish/UK driver licence. However should you lose your licence through driving offences during your time in Australia, your licence will be suspended at home too.

¹¹ <http://www.legalaid.wa.gov.au/InformationAboutTheLaw/CarsandDriving/accidents/Pages/Default.aspx>

¹² <http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/licensing/20669.asp>

12 is the maximum number of points allowed, during public holidays the number of points given to each offence doubles, known as “Double Demerits”. This means that a speeding offence which would normally result in 2 points now becomes 4 points.

All driving offences carry a monetary fine along with the points system. A letter will be sent to the address of the owner of the vehicle and if unpaid can result in further court action by the Fines Enforcement Registry.

Importing a Car from Ireland to Australia

The Personal Imports Scheme allows migrants settling in Australia, to bring their personal vehicles with them. Mandatory criteria apply around ownership of the vehicle, use of the vehicle and the citizenship and visa requirements. If you fail to meet the criteria, you will not be eligible to import a vehicle under the scheme. Further information on importing a vehicle can be found [here](#)

Section Seven: Health

Reciprocal Health Care Agreement

There is a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) in place between the Australian Government and a number of different countries including the Republic of Ireland. This means that holders of a Republic of Ireland passport can get some essential medical treatments while visiting Australia. This is relevant for persons who are resident of the Republic of Ireland during the duration of their visit to Australia. (e.g. people in Australia on Subclass 417 and Subclass 457 visas). This [link](#) clarifies the persons entitled to care under the agreement and the healthcare services which persons are entitled to. It also gives a step by step process for the claiming back of your medical expense from Medicare.

As noted on the Human Services Government website, Reciprocal Health Care Agreements are not designed to replace private travel health insurance for overseas travel. Click [here](#) for further details:

Public Health service in Western Australia are provided by WA Health www.health.wa.gov.au/about/

Private Health Care

The level of recommended travel health insurance and private health insurance requirements under different visa types will vary. The Australian Government Private Health Insurance Ombudsman website provides useful information on health policies available in Australia.

Please take some time to review the website, especially the FAQ's section which clarifies topics in relation to health insurance requirements / options for different Visa holders.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) is an Australian Government program that subsidises medicines to make them more affordable. The Australian Government and Irish Government have set up a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) in which Irish people are eligible to receive benefits under the PBS.

The PBS Schedule lists all of the medicines available to patients at a Government-subsidised price. If your prescription is included on the PBS Schedule simply show your passport when lodging your prescription to claim the PBS benefits. Under the PBS, the maximum cost for a pharmaceutical benefit item at a pharmacy is \$36.10 for general patients.

Refer to the [PBS website](#) for more information

Healthcare

Each suburb in Perth has a selection of Medical Centres and services available for the public use. The price to avail of services will vary with each centre and depend on service used.

A full list of hospitals in Australia is available from the website www.myhospitals.gov.au. A search can be completed on the website for hospitals in your local area / suburb. Familiarise yourself with the location of your local A&E Department.

Medicare

Medicare is Australia's universal healthcare insurance scheme. A percentage levy is deducted from workers salary's to contribute to the scheme.

The list below is taken from the Medicare [website](#) identifying what Medicare usually covers:

- free or subsidized treatment by health professionals such as doctors, specialists, optometrists, dentists and other allied health practitioners (in special circumstances only)
- free treatment and accommodation as a public (Medicare) patient in a public hospital
- 75 per cent of the Medicare Schedule fee for services and procedures if you are a private patient in a public or private hospital (does not include hospital accommodation and items such as theatre fees and medicines)
- some health care services in certain countries

Medicare Exemption Certificate

It is worth noting that the benefits of Medicare are dependent on the type of Visa that you are working in Australia on. If you are not eligible for Medicare, you can apply for an exemption from paying the levy in your income tax return.

Section Eight: Safety and Support

Safety in the Sun & Heat

Perth's climate is hot, sunny summers and mild winters. The heat here is not like a summer day in Ireland. During the summer months which are from December to February, daytime temperatures in Perth often reach 40 degrees. But with the sun and exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation (UV), we all need to take precautions which we are not accustomed to.

The Cancer Council of Western Australia promotes the SunSmart prevention programme which has five simple steps

1. Slip on sun protective clothing
2. Slop on SPF 30+ sunscreen
3. Slap on a hat
4. Seek shade
5. Slide on some sunglasses

Further advice available from Cancer Council Helpline 13 11 20 or by visiting their [website](#)

It is also recommended to increase the amount of fluid intake to counteract those lost through the excessive heat. Heat stress may affect people in all parts of WA during summer months and may affect workers at some workplaces throughout the year. The effects of heat stress range from discomfort to life threatening illnesses such as heat stroke, [click here](#) for more information.

During some times of the year there may be restrictions on watering garden or washing cars. Full details can be obtained from your [local Shire](#).

Safety on the Beaches

The coastline of Western Australia is lined by white sandy beaches; Perth CBD is only a short 20 minute car journey from the coastline. The beaches provide free fun family entertainment and some are serviced with free BBQ facilities provided by the local councils. Free events often take place by the beaches, listen to the local radio stations and check out local media for updates.

What is a Rip?

Rip currents occur frequently along the Australia coastline. A rip is a moving current of water, which can vary between strong or fast flowing. Usually, it will start near the shoreline and flow away from the beach. It may feel like you are in a fast moving flow of water, like being in a river or you may not notice it at all. This safety animation [video clip](#) identifies what to watch out for.

There are five recommendations by Beach Safe to assist in making your trip to the beach "safe".

1. Always swim between the red and yellow flags
2. Read the safety signs
3. Ask a lifeguard for safety advice
4. Swim with a friend
5. If you need help, stay calm and attract attention

Further tips on Water safety are available on the [beach safe website](#).

Beaches are patrolled by the Surf Lifesavers; there are over 5,000 men and women volunteering in Western Australia. The service provided by them help make the beaches a safe environment for all to enjoy. Check out their [website](#) for all their services and programmes

Fire Safety

Because of the very warm dry climate here in Australia fire safety is a very important aspect of everyday life for all residents, and it is important to respect the safety advice provided by local authorities, including councils, fire officers and police.

As Western Australia's leading hazard management agency, the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) performs a critical role coordinating emergency services for a range of natural disasters and emergency incidents threatening life and property.¹³

It is important to plan ahead for emergency situations especially if you live in areas prone to natural disasters, it could save you and your family's life. Bushfires happen every summer; they can start suddenly and without warning. People have been killed or seriously injured, and homes destroyed during bushfires. If you live in or near bush, fire is a real risk to you and your family.

Typically Western Australia's (WA) bushfire season in the south west starts in November and continues through to April. While in the Kimberley the season runs from June through to late October. As climate and seasonal conditions change, bushfires in WA are becoming more common and the risks are increasing.

The devastating impact a bushfire has on a community has a lasting affect and can take years to recover from. Even if you live in a metropolitan area near bushland, then bushfire is a real threat to you, your family and property. You need to understand the bushfire risk to your family and home so you can make decisions now about what you will do if a bushfire starts.¹⁴

13 <http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/aboutus/corporateinformation/Pages/default.aspx>

14 <http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/safetyinformation/fire/bushfire/Pages/default.aspx>

Support Groups

There are lots of support and self-help groups available in Perth; links below will assist to find the one nearest you.

Western Australia Mental Health Commission - This provides a comprehensive list of services offered and contact details for out of hours services. www.mentalhealth.wa.gov.au/getting_help/Emergency_help.aspx

HealthDirect - A free 24/7 health advice line available to Western Australians (Can assist with providing details of closest doctor, information on conditions and diseases) - www.healthinsite.gov.au/index.cfm

Headspace – Australia’s National Youth Mental Health Foundation. <http://www.headspace.org.au/>

Alcoholics Anonymous - www.aa.org.au

There is also a local Perth base website for the Perth Branch www.aaperthwa.org this contains details of “Helpline” numbers and support numbers which are manned 24Hrs per day. There is also a link to download the current meetings list which is updated monthly.

Narcotics Anonymous – www.na.org.au

Domestic Violence – www.ncsmc.org.au

Mates in Construction - www.matesinconstruction.com.au

Gambling Anonymous - www.gansw.org.au/

Centrelink

Centrelink is part of the Department of Human Services which deliver a range of payments and services for people at times of major change. Persons on a PR (Permanent Residency) visa type are eligible for services. However, no payments are made to Temporary Visa holders e.g. holders of Subclass 457 or a 417 Working Holiday Visa.

A list of Centrelink Customer Service Centre locations throughout the suburbs of Perth and towns of WA is available on the [website](#).

Services and payments offered by Centrelink include but not limited to the following: Families, Job Seekers, Health, Students & Trainees, Carers, Separated Parents and Help in Emergency’s. Contact your local Centrelink Customer Service Centre to determine eligibility.

Section Nine: Australia Information & History

About Australia

Australia is the world's sixth-largest country by total area and has a population of almost 23 million. Australia is made up of six states and two territories.

Aboriginal settlers were the first known and documented arrivals to Australia; they came from Southeast Asia approximately 40,000 years before European explorers in the 17th century. In 1770, Captain James Cook took possession of the continent on behalf of Great Britain. Over the late 18th and 19th centuries six colonies were created. In 1901 they federated and the Commonwealth of Australia was born.

Information on the Australian flag can be found at <http://www.anbg.gov.au/oz/flag.html>

Western Australia is one of the oldest lands on Earth with a rich Aboriginal history dating back more than 40,000 years. Captain James Stirling founded the Swan River Colony on the 1st of June, 1829. Unlike other Australian states, Western Australia was colonised as a free settlement and not a penal colony. The original state capital was to be the harbour town of Albany however this was moved to the fruitful Swan river valley, which is now the site of Perth and Fremantle.

It wasn't until 1850 that convicts arrived and by then the basic structure of the settlement had been established. The early growth of the city was slow. By 1849 the population was 1148. In 1891 it had only grown to 8447 and in 1911 it was only a medium sized country town with a population of 31,300. To put that into perspective - just 100 years ago Perth was only about the size of Bray, Co. Wicklow.

The arrival of the Trans-Australian Railway in 1917 and the early success of the gold mining towns pushed the population to 272,528 in 1947 and the subsequent immigration from Britain meant that by 1981 there were 809,035 people living in Perth and its suburbs.¹⁵

The population of Perth is now over 1.8 million and is growing by approximately 50,000 per year.

Visit [here](#) to read more about Western Australia

Aboriginal Culture

Australian Aboriginals were the original inhabitants of Australia. They lived a nomadic existence, moving within fairly well-defined geographic regions, as they followed the seasons and food sources. Indigenous Australians survived in harsh climatic and environmental conditions which ranged from cold temperate to hot tropical, coping with arid conditions and torrential rains. They have lived for many thousands of years in ways that sustained their societies while conserving resources, protecting fragile soils and leaving a light footprint on the environment.¹⁶

15 <http://www.about-australia.com/facts/western-australia-history/>

16 <http://www.about-australia.com/facts/western-australia-history/>

Nyoongar is the generic term for indigenous people of the southwest of Western Australia. The area at the base of Kings Park in Perth, known as Goonininup, was an important ceremonial and dreaming area for Aboriginal males.¹⁷

Rock Art and Ancient Culture

Australian Aboriginal culture believes that spirit ancestors breathe life and energy into traditional dance, song and design and play a very important role in indigenous culture throughout Western Australia. These ancestral spirits possessed supernatural powers enabling them during the Dreamtime of the world's creation to change into human, animal or other forms. Spirit ancestors govern and determine Aboriginal people's ritual activity, imparting a specific meaning to every step of a dance, every verse of a song and each pattern in a painting.¹⁸

A collection of Australian Aboriginal rock art featuring distinctive stick-like images was discovered in Australia's North West in the late 1990s. Archaeological dating placed the Gyorn Gyorn also called Bradshaw paintings among the oldest paintings on record.

History is reflected in art, which varies, including cave-paintings, rock art and bark paintings in the north, to the very detailed patterned dot-paintings throughout the central Golden Outback. And while the paintings are aesthetically beautiful, each one is unique and tells its own story.

Dance and body-painting is also a method of story-telling, so corroborees (traditional dancing) remain as important ceremonies portraying dreamtimes stories of evolution, and how the world came to be.

To read more on Aboriginal culture go to

<http://www.aboriginalculture.com.au>

http://www.westernaustralia.com/au/About_Western_Australia/History_and_Culture/Pages/History_and_Culture.aspx

<http://australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/austn-indigenous-cultural-heritage>

<http://year3history.edublogs.org/indigenous-art-forms/>

http://www.westernaustralia.com/au/About_Western_Australia/History_and_Culture/Pages/Aboriginal_Culture.aspx

<http://www.aboriginalartonline.com/art/rock.php>

17 <http://www.bgpa.wa.gov.au/kings-park/history/aboriginal-life>

18 http://www.westernaustralia.com/au/About_Western_Australia/History_and_Culture/Pages/Aboriginal_Culture.aspx

Public Holidays

The 10 public holidays in Western Australia are New Year's Day, Australia Day, Labour Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, ANZAC Day, Western Australia Day, Queen's Birthday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.¹⁹

Australia Day

Australia Day is on January 26th and commemorates the establishment of the first European settlement at Port Jackson, now part of Sydney, in 1788. It is an opportunity for Australians to come together to celebrate their country and culture. There are reflections on the achievements of the nation and explorations of way to make the country even better in the future.²⁰

Perth puts on a spectacular fireworks display every Australia Day.

ANZAC Day

ANZAC is an abbreviation for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. The soldiers in those forces were known as ANZACs, and the pride they took in that name endures to this day. ANZAC Day is celebrated on 25th April is probably Australia's most important national occasion. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War.²¹

Australian Slang²²

Just as we have our own Irish slang, so do the Australians. Australian slang is also called Strine, and is considered a common way of speaking. Words and phrases handed down from their ancestors have become iconic to Australia.

There are certain words that have a completely different meaning. For example if someone compliments your 'thongs', they are referring to your flip-flops and not your underwear!

19 <http://australia.gov.au/topics/australian-facts-and-figures/public-holidays>

20 <http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/australia/australia-day>

21 http://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/anzac/anzac_tradition.asp

22 <http://www.mytopten.com.au/2011/07/my-top-ten-australian-slang-phrases/>

Appendix One: List of Perth Hostels

1201 East Backpackers
195 Hay Street, East Perth, WA 6004
1800 00 1201 or 0061 8 9221 1666
info@1201east.com.au
www.1201east.com.au

Backpackers International Ladies Hostel
116 Aberdeen St, Northbridge, Perth, WA 6003
0061 8 9227 9977
backpackersinternational@iinet.net.au
backpackersinternationalperth.com

Banjos Backpackers
150 Claisebrook Rd, Perth, WA 6000
0061 8 9228 9525
reservations@banjosbackpackers.com.au
www.banjosbackpackers.com.au

Beatty Lodge
235 Vincent Street, Perth, WA 6005
0061 8 9227 1521
info@beattylodge.com.au
www.beattylodge.com.au

Billabong Backpackers Resort
381 Beaufort St., Perth, WA 6000
0061 8 9328 7720
www.billabongresort.com.au

Britannia on William
253 William Street, Northbridge, WA 6003
0061 8 9227 6000
www.perthbritannia.com

Coolibah Lodge
194 Brisbane St, Northbridge, WA 6000
1800 280 000 or 0061 8 9328 9958
www.coolibahlodge.com.au

Easy Perth Backpackers
46 Francis Street, Northbridge, WA 6003
0061 8 9228 8170
www.easypertbackpackers.com.au
Exclusive Backpackers
158 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, WA 6000
0061 8 9221 9991
exclusivebackpackers@hotmail.com
www.exclusivebackpackers.com

Globe Backpackers
561 Wellington Street,
(Corner of Queen Street), Perth, WA
6000
0061 8 9321 4080
globebak@iinet.net.au
www.globebackpackers.com.au

Guildfords Rosedale Lodge
22 East Street, Guildford, WA 6055
0061 8 9246 9499

Hay Street Backpackers
266-268 Hay St, Perth, WA 6000
0061 8 9221 9880
haystreetbackpackers@gmail.com
www.haystbackpackers.com

Ocean Beach Backpackers
Cnr. Marine Pde & Eric St., Cottesloe
Beach,
WA 6011
0061 8 9384 5111
backpackers@obh.com.au
www.oceanbeachbackpackers.com.au

Perth Beach Hostel (Indigo)
256 West Coast Highway, Scarborough,
WA 6019
0061 8 92453388
indigo_netcafe@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/indigoperthbeach

The Emperor's Crown Backpacker
85 Stirling Street, Perth, WA 6000
1800 991 553
0061 8 9227 1400
manager@emperorscrown.com.au
www.emperorscrown.com.au

The Hive Hostel
55 Stirling Street, Perth, WA 6000
0061 8 9227 7557
thehivehostel@gmail.com
www.thehivehostel.com.au

The Old Swan Barracks
2 - 8 Francis Street, Perth, WA 6000
0061 8 9428 0000

www.theoldswanbarracks.com
The Shiralee Backpackers Hostel
107 Brisbane St, Perth, WA 6003
1800 22 77 45 or 0061 8 9227 7448
info@shiralee.com.au
www.shiralee.com.au/

Underground Backpackers
268 Newcastle St , Northbridge, WA
6003
0061 8 9228 3755
underground@iinet.net.au
www.undergroundbackpackers.com.au

Western Beach Lodge
6 Westborough Street, Scarborough, WA
6019
0061 8 9245 1624
westernbeach@iprimus.com.au
www.westernbeach.com

Witch's Hat Backpackers
148 Palmerston St, Perth, WA 6000
1800 818 358
0061 8 9228 4228
manager@witchshat.com
www.witchshat.com

YMCA Jewell House 180 Goderich Street,
Perth, WA 6000 0061 8 9325 8488
jewellhouse@ymca.org.au
www.ymcajewellhouse.com.au/



Appendix Two: Community, Cultural & Sporting info

Community

The Irish Scene Magazine

Local and overseas community and sporting news

www.irishscene.com.au

www.facebook.com/irishscene

Irish Club of Western Australia

61 Townshend Road, Subiaco

www.irishclubofwa.com.au

www.facebook.com/irishclub.westernaustralia

Irish Families in Perth

A group for Irish families/ IrishAustralian families in Perth to make contact and discuss issues with relocating, settling in, advice or to just have a chat.

www.facebook.com/groups/irishfamiliesinperth

Irish Around Perth

Used for everything from selling cars to finding accommodation and jobs.

www.facebook.com/irish.perth

Cultural

Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann

The Comhaltas is a worldwide group dedicated to the preservation of Irish Culture and traditions through music and dance.

Classes/ Session/Set Dancing
Mondays - 7.30pm at the Irish Club.

www.perthcomhaltas.com

Irish Theatre Players

The Irish Theatre Players was formed in 1981 and is the only amateur theatre group in Australia that specialises in Irish plays.

www.irishtheatreplayers.com.au

www.facebook.com/IrishTheatrePlayers

Australian Irish Heritage Assoc.

The Association is an inclusive organisation which encourages and promotes an awareness of Australia's Irish Heritage. To this end, the association creates opportunities for all to learn about, participate in and enjoy this distinctive heritage.

www.irishheritage.net

The Perth Rose of Tralee

The Perth Rose of Tralee was established in 1986 to organise and select a Perth Rose to compete in the Rose of Tralee International Competition.

www.perthroserose.com

Australian Irish Dancing Assoc. Inc. – Western Australia

www.aidainc.com/western-australia

Delany School

Forrestfield & Parkerville

delanyschool@bigpond.com

Eireann School

Como, Jandakot & Rockingham

irishdance@iinet.net.au

Kavanagh Studio

Osborne Park & Melville

kavanaghdance@hotmail.com

O'Brien Academy

Butler, Kinross & Subiaco

obrien_irishdancing@hotmail.com

O'Hare School

Wembly Downs & Osborne Park

ohareirishdancing@yahoo.com.au

Saoirse School

Carramar

sineadh73@bigpond.com

Scoile Rinci Ni Bhaird

Ferndale
tony.5573@hotmail.com

Scoil Rince Ni Ceide/Upton

Subiaco & Woodvale
mandsmcaleer@bigpond.com

Trinity Studio

Morley
ashley5@virginbroadband.com.au

WA Academy

Malaga
glenalee.bromilow@gmail.com

Sporting

Gaelic Football & Hurling Association of WA

Contacts for all clubs can be found on the association website.
BGC Ground
Tom Bateman Reserve
Corner of Bannister and Nicholson Rd,
Canning Vale
www.gfhw.com.au
www.facebook.com/gaelicfootball.westernaustralia

Minor Board

Under 18 boys & girls.
For more info contact:
waminorgaelicteam@gmail.com

Junior Academy

Caters for boys and girls from age 4 to 14, where the players learn the skills of all three codes. The Academy operates every second Sunday during the league season.
For more info contact:
gerrycrawley@westnet.com.au

Shamrock Rovers Soccer Club

Harold Rossiter Reserve
East Victoria Park
For more info contact:
bill.byrne@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/groupsShamrockRovers1984

Irish Golf Club of WA

For more info contact
Michael McCann – 0429 907 030

The Claddagh Association of WA

The Claddagh Association is a support group for the Irish Community in Western Australia. We are a voluntary non-profit organisation with Gift Recipient Status. We aim to provide where possible, crisis support to people from the Irish community in times of hardship and trauma. We provide a safety net to assist people in crisis situations where all other avenues have been exhausted.

We continually fundraise to provide the much needed funds to carry out our mission and welcome any donation large or small; donations can be made via PayPal on our website. We also regularly require the support of volunteers - please contact us if you are interested in volunteering with Claddagh.

Website:www.claddagh.org.au
Email:support@claddagh.org.au
Telephone:0403 972 265

Postal Address:
PO Box 855
INNALOO WA 6918

